

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 12709 280203Z

61

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 110757

O 272038Z OCT 76 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5388

S E C R E T CARACAS 12709

NODIS

FOR ARA SHLAUDEMANN AND LUERS ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1 AND 2

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, VE

SUBJECT: JUAN DEONIS' CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT

REF: CARACAS 12669

1. NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT, JUAN DEONIS, TOLD ME THIS MORNING THAT ON MONDAY EVENING HE HAD BEEN SUMMONED BY THE PRESIDENT WHO COMPLAINED BITTERLY ABOUT THE BINDER ARTICLE (REFTEL). THE PRESIDENT WAS UPSET OVER BOTH THE ACCUSATION THAT HE HAD LINKS TO PINOCHET AND THE REFERENCE TO AN FBI REPORT THAT HE HAD MET WITH BOSCH. DEONIS SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT DENIED BOTH THINGS AND SAID THAT THE NEW YORK TIMES OUGHT TO PRINT A RETRACTION. DEONIS SAID HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO CABLE NEW YORK THAT THE PRESIDENT WANTED THEM TO PRINT A RETRACTION IF THE PRESIDENT FLATLY DENIED THE REPORT. CAP DEMURRED AND REPEATED HIS DISPLEASURE OVER A PRESTIGIOUS NEWSPAPER PRINTING THESE STORIES.

2. DEONIS SAID HE WAS SUMMONED BACK ON TUESDAY AND WENT THROUGH ANOTHER TIRADE IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT NOTED THAT NOT ONLY WAS THERE NO RETRACTION BUT THAT THE USG HAD MADE NO STATEMENT. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE HAD TO REACT IN SOME WAY IF NOTHING

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CARACA 12709 280203Z

WERE SAID IN THE FUTURE, AND THAT MAYBE HE OUGHT

TO PNG JOE LEO. DEONIS SAID HE WANTED TO TELL ME
ABOUT THIS BECAUSE HE DID NOT KNOW HOW SERIOUS OR
IMPORTANT IT WAS.

3. I TOLD DEONIS OFF-THE-RECORD RPT OFF-THE-RECORD
THAT I WAS AWARE OF THE PRESIDENT'S UNHAPPINESS
BECAUSE THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD TOLD ME. I SAID
I HAD TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT I DID NOT KNOW
IF SUCH AN FBI REPORT EXISTED BUT THAT I COULD
ASSURE HIM THAT JOE LEO HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
I SAID THAT THERE WAS NO INDICATION TO ME THAT THEY
WERE SO UPSET THAT THE GOV WOULD TAKE SUCH DRASTIC
ACTION AS TO PNG JOE LEO.

4. I ASKED DEONIS WHY BINDER WOULD CITE
SOMETHING AS AN FBI REPORT. HE SAID HE COULD
NOT UNDERSTAND IT HIMSELF BECAUSE ONE DOES NOT NORMALLY
SPECIFICALLY ATTRIBUTE THIS SORT OF INFORMATION.
VAKY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EXPULSION, ALLEGATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CARACA12709
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DC ALSO X1
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840098-2360, N760007-0819
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761015/aaaaamho.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: 76 CARACAS 12669
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <21 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUAN DEONIS' CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, VE, US, NEW YORK TIMES, (BINDER, DAVID), (DEONIS, JUAN), (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES), (LEO, JOE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006